mainly lies in 3200 km stretch of rivers and canals, 2.79 lakh ha. area of reservoirs, 32000 ha. area under tanks and ponds. In Assam, the potential lies in 4 820 km. stretch of rivers and canals, 110,000 ha. of flood-plain lakes, 55.000 ha. area under reservoirs and 21,000 ha. area under tanks and ponds. The annual production potential from these resources depends on the fishing efforts, technology, craft, gear, etc. deployed in harnessing these capture and culture fishery resources.

(d) The Government have been operating a number of Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes to exploit the resources to the maximum possible level. In Assam the major schemes in operation are:

(i) Freshwater aquaculture.

(ii) Assistance for strengthing fish marketing.

In Maharashtra, in addition to the above schemes, the following are also being implemented;

(i) Fishery harbour facilities at major ports.

(ii) Providing fishery harbour/landing centre facilities at minor ports.

(iii) Integrated brackishwater fish farm development.

(iv) Development of coastal marine fisheries

(a) Motorisation of traditional craft.

(b) Reimbursement of excise duty on HSD Oil.

Proposal for expension of Muraina and Chindwara Plant

1702. SHRI KAILASH NARAIN SARANG: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 2463 given in the Rajya Sabha on 12th August, 1994 and state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has since recommended proposals for the expansion of the Muraina plant and Chindwara plant of the Cooperative Oil Seeds Association of the National Cooperative Development Corporation for approval;

(b) if so, what is the cost thereof and when the same were revived; and

(c) whether the National Cooperative Development Corporation has taken any action on these proposals; if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c) Madhya Pradesh Government have not made any change in the earlier proposals for expansion of Muraina and Chindwara plants of MP State Oilseed Growers' Federation (MPOILFED) after August, 1994. Muraina expansion project with a cost of Rs. 30.58 crore was recommended by the State Government to National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) on 7.4.94. It was appraised by NCDC in September, 1994. In view of the non-satisfactory functioning of the unit and the heavy losses incurred by MPOILFED, the National Cooperative Development Corporation had suggested to the State Government that the MPOILFED might improve the capacity utilisation and consolidation of its financial position before the proposal could be considered.

As regard Chindwara project, the same was submitted by the State Government to NCDC on 9.2.93 with a cost of Rs. 28.25 crore. The appraisal of the project was deferred by NCDC till the unit stabilised in operations. In the meantime, the MPOILFED pruned the project cost to Rs. 9.54 crore and the revised proposal was submitted by the MPOILFED to NCDC in December, 93. However, this has not been recommended by the State Government so far.

Production of High Quality Potatoes

1703. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether potato marketing company of Netherlands known as 'Agrico' has offered to introduce high quality potatoes in India: